

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

**By Reich, Gordon, Hofstede, Johnson, Samuels, Lilligren,
Goodman, Glidden, Schiff, Tuthill, Quincy, Colvin Roy, and Hodges**

HONORING Retiring Elementary Teacher Bessie G. Griffin.

Whereas, Historic Grambling State University that opened November 1, 1901 in Grambling, LA has produced such legendary African American greats as singer/producer/poet Erykah Badu, Congressman Bettye Davis, Congresswoman Alicia Reece, Hall of Fame Football players Willie Brown, Buck Buchanan, Willie Davis and Charlie Joiner, playwright Judi Ann Mason, James Harris first NFL African American quarterback to start game, Doug Williams first African American quarterback to win the Super Bowl XXII and MVP, Hall of Fame basketball player Willis Reed and educator Bessie G. Griffin who graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education in 1963; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin started educating, loving and nurturing African American scholars at Collinston Elementary School in Collinston, LA as a 4th grade teacher in 1963; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin started educating, loving and nurturing African American and other scholars at Minneapolis Hay Elementary School in 1966 as a 3rd and 4th grade teacher; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin continued to educate, love and nurture African American and other scholars at Minneapolis Field Elementary School as a 4th and 6th grade teacher in 1971; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin continued to educate, love and nurture African American scholars at Harvest Prep School in Minneapolis as a 5th grade teacher, Title 1 teacher, Special Education teacher, Curriculum Coordinator and 4th grade teacher, a love and nurturing that has been the core of Harvest Prep School that gave birth to Best Academy, Mastery School and high academic achievement for African American scholars; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin served on the Harvest Prep School Board of Directors for the past 10 years, serving as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary during her illustrious tenure; and

Whereas, Bessie G. Griffin has served the African American community as role model for not only scholars, but teachers and administrators while being a daughter, wife, mother, sister, friend, education leader, community servant, drum major for freedom, justice and equality for 50 years to thousands of scholars and many others;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City Council and Mayor express their appreciation and thanks to Bessie Griffin for her exceptional service to the City of Minneapolis children and families.